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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: KAWAHARA
Serial No.: 10/608677
Filed: June 24, 2003
Confirmation No.: 8278

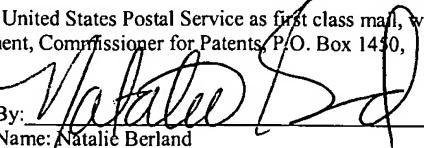


Due Date: December 22, 2005
Title: A SLIDE FASTENER

Examiner: James Brittain
Group Art Unit: 3677
Docket: 10877.0054US01
Notice of Allow. N/A
Date:

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on December 9, 2005.

By: 
Name: Natalie Berland

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

23552
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

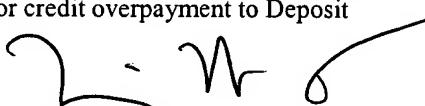
Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 3 Reference(s), Copy of Japanese Office Action and translation thereof.
- Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Merchant & Gould P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
612.332.5300

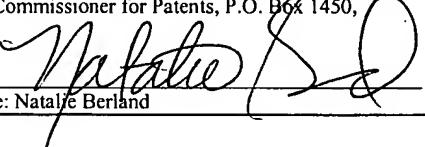
By: 
Name: Brian H. Batzli
Reg. No.: 32,960
BHB/ncb

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Applicant: KAWAHARA Examiner: James Brittain
 Serial No.: 10/608677 Group Art Unit: 3677
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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c))

Mail Stop Amendment
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Commissioner:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner. At least some of the references were recently cited in an Japanese Office Action mailed November 22, 2005.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted after the mailing date of a first Office Action on-the-merits or a first Office Action after filing a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 or a CPA under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d), but before the mailing date of: i) a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113; ii) a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311; or iii) an action that otherwise closes prosecution on the application. No fee is due as this statement is submitted as certified below under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1) or (2) by the undersigned.

Certification Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1)

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c) or §1.97(d), the undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application within three months of filing this statement.

Certification Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d)

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d), the undersigned hereby certifies that each item listed on the enclosed Form 1449 was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and that this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty (30) days prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. Accordingly, no patent term adjustment is due for the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

A concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language document or other information is as follows (37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)):

An English Abstract has been provided for all Japanese references.

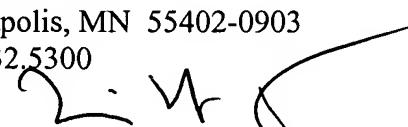
No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
(612)332-5300

By: 
Brian H. Batzli
Reg. No.: 32,960

Dated: December 9, 2005

BHB/ncb

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|---|---|----------------------------|----------------------|
| FORM 1449* O I P E IAP85 DEC. 12 2005 U.S. | INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT | Docket Number: | Application Number: |
| | IN AN APPLICATION | 10877.0054US01 | 10/608677 |
| | (Use several sheets if necessary) | Applicant: KAWAHARA | |
| | | Filing Date: June 24, 2003 | Group Art Unit: 3677 |

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.